

CLAIMS

1. (original) A method of measuring an analyte concentration in body fluid in an animal body having skin and subcutaneous soft tissue that includes body fluid,
5 said method comprising:
- (a) providing an analyte measuring device, including:
 - (b) an analyte sensing element, having a sharpened distal end to facilitate
10 introduction into said animal body and further having an indicating electrode covered by an absorbent or spreading layer;
 - (c) an electric power, data processing and display device adapted to mate to said
15 analyte sensing element and activate said analyte sensing element by applying electric power to it and adapted to receive said raw analyte measurement and to compute and display a refined analyte measurement,
20 related to said raw analyte measurement;
 - (d) introducing said analyte sensing element into said animal body subcutaneous soft tissue, thereby placing said absorbent layer into contact with said animal body
25 subcutaneous soft tissue and said body fluid;
 - (e) permitting said absorbent layer to become saturated with body fluids;
 - (f) removing said indicating electrode from
30 said body soft tissue;
 - (g) activating said analyte sensing element by applying electric power to it, thereby causing said analyte sensing element to form a raw analyte measurement; and

(h) receiving said raw analyte measurement in
said electric power, data processing and
display device and computing and displaying
a refined analyte measurement, related to
5 said raw analyte measurement.

Cancel claims 2 through 25.

26. (new) The analyte sensing element of claim
10 1 wherein an enzyme layer is interposed between said
indicating electrode and said absorbent layer.

27. (new) The analyte sensing element of claim
1 wherein a redox mediator layer is interposed between
15 said enzyme layer and said indicating electrode.

28. (new) The analyte sensing element of claim
1 wherein a permselective layer is interposed between
said enzyme layer and said absorbent layer.
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29. (new) The analyte sensing element of claim
1 wherein an interferent excluding layer is interposed
between said enzyme layer and said absorbent layer.
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It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and early notice of allowance are respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Timothy E. Siegel

Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No.: 37,442

Tel. No.: (503) 650-7411

Fax No.: (503) 650-9886

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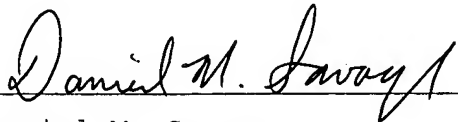
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on April 28, 2005

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Daniel M. Savage